



Bureau of Land Management

Hollister Field Office

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CLEAR CREEK BULLETIN

November 2004

Upcoming Events

The Public Comment Period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Clear Creek Management Area has been extended until November 16, 2004.

Please send written comments by that date for consideration in the planning effort.

The Draft Resource Management Plan Amendment and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Clear Creek Management Area is available for review on the Hollister website at:

www.ca.blm.gov/hollister.

NEPA News

Environmental documents In Progress FY04:

CA-190-04-10 Categorical Exclusion, Right-of-way, Installation of Weather Station

CA-190-04-25 Environmental Assessment. Jade Mill Recreation Site Development

CA-190-04-30 Environmental Assessment. Road and Route Maintenance Protocol – Clear Creek Management Area.

Asbestos Alert

Office of Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) policy regards exposure to asbestos of levels at or above 0.1 fibers per cubic centimeter within an 8-hour period may pose a potential hazard to human health.

Latest air sample readings: .191, .070, .033, and .026

Readings vary depending on the nature of the activity during sampling. Parts of the CCMA recently received nearly four inches of rainfall which has helped reduce dusty conditions. OSHA recommends wearing a respirator if air samples exceed .10 in the CCMA.

Note that operating motorcycles and ATV's can generate significantly higher asbestos concentrations.

Comments Welcome!

You can expect to see the next bulletin in December. Don't hesitate to contact us if you have something new you think we should add!

Help Clear Creek!

BLM is planning a fencing project within Upper Clear Creek Canyon during November to protect additional habitat areas. Contact Brian White at the Hollister Office for more information if you are willing to donate a day or part of a day to help BLM staff with the project.

Outreach and Information

Do you know the rules about firearms? Did you know that there are many plants that grow only in serpentine soils? Now your questions can be answered by BLM staff at the entrance to Clear Creek on the weekends starting this fall season.

Other News...

Limit discharge of firearms to areas outside Clear Creek Canyon. Always think of where your shot may end up.

BLM is planning additional resource protection fencing for the "Jade Mill" area between Oak Flats and Staging Area one, as well as upper Clear Creek Canyon. Contact the Hollister Field office for more information.

Be aware of treacherous road conditions during rainy periods in Clear Creek. Access the following website for up-to-the-hour rainfall at Santa Rita Peak and other locations:

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/misc/RealPrecip.html>

Then scroll to precipitation totals for the San Benito River Drainage – Santa Rita Peak among other sites

EPA Risk Assessment

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been conducting air sampling within Clear Creek to determine personal exposure levels of asbestos during various activities. This information will be presented to BLM and the public, and could result in the Atlas Mine site being removed from EPAs "Superfund" list. Call (415) 972-3236 for more information, and see information posted on kiosks within CCMA.

**For Up-To-Date Information on Recreation and Road Conditions Call the CCMA Hotline at:
831-630-5060**